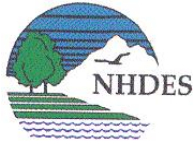


News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services



29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03302-0095
For information online, visit www.des.nh.gov
James P. Martin, Public Information Officer
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 2, 2007

CONTACT: Sara Sumner, (603) 271-2658

Workshop Offered for Volunteers Interested in Lake Monitoring

Concord, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP) is looking for volunteers. Do you live near a lake or pond? Are you interested in collecting lake samples, conducting your own water quality tests and understanding the test results? Would you like to know how much our lakes are worth to the state? With New Hampshire being the fastest growing state in the Northeast, how can we work together to protect our lakes from land-use changes in the watershed? Have you heard about toxic cyanobacteria or exotic aquatic plants, such as variable milfoil or fanwort, and have you wondered if they grow in the waterbody you live around?

Attend the VLAP annual workshop and these questions, and many more, will be answered! Workshop participants will learn about VLAP and how to become part of an important program that helps monitor the state's water quality, identify aquatic plants, and utilize lake sampling techniques. Workshop attendees will also learn more about cyanobacteria and current legislative initiatives. In addition to the popular "Ask the Experts" session, a special guest will present on "The Economic Cost of Declining Water Quality in New Hampshire: The Link between Visitor Perceptions and Spending."

You won't want to miss this exciting workshop!

What: Volunteer Lake Assessment Program Annual Workshop

**Where: NH Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH**

**When: Saturday, May 19, 2007
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

Cost: Free-of-charge, but preregistration is required.

For more information or if you would like to attend the VLAP workshop, please contact Sara Sumner, VLAP Coordinator, at (603) 271-2658, or email ssumner@des.state.nh.us.

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